

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TRUSTEES
OF
PUBLIC RESERVATIONS

1898

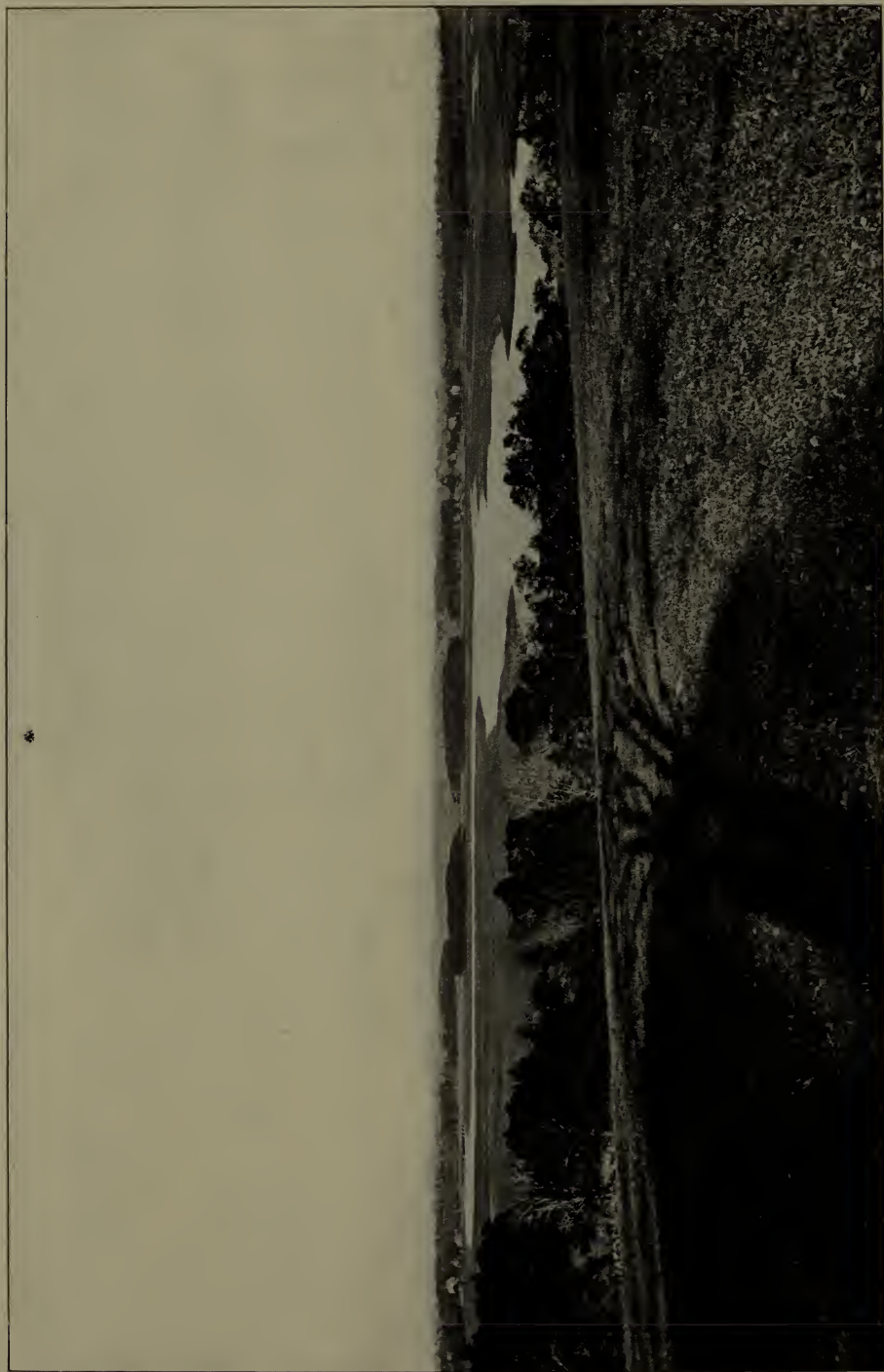


PRINTED FOR THE TRUSTEES BY
GEO. H. ELLIS, 272 CONGRESS STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

1899

Societies and individuals interested in Massachusetts history, natural history, scenery, and town and country improvement, are invited to contribute to the working funds of this Board. The annual reports can be promised only to Founders, Life Associates, and Contributors. (See By-laws, Article II.) The Treasurer is George Wigglesworth, 89 State Street, Boston. The Secretary is John Woodbury, 14 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.





GOVERNOR HUTCHINSON'S FIELD.

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OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION.

1898.

President.

GEORGE F. HOAR, Worcester.

Vice-President.

GEORGE SHELDON, Deerfield.

Standing Committee.

PHILIP A. CHASE, Lynn, *Chairman.*

CHARLES S. SARGENT, Brookline.

HENRY P. WALCOTT, Cambridge.

NATHANIEL T. KIDDER, Milton.

CHARLES S. RACKEMANN, Milton.

GEORGE WIGGLESWORTH, 89 State St., Boston, *Treasurer.*

JOHN WOODBURY, 14 Beacon St., Boston, *Secretary.*

J. F. A. ADAMS, Pittsfield.

OLIVER AMES, Boston.

FRANCIS H. APPLETON, Boston.

JAMES BROOKS, Petersham.

FRANKLIN CARTER, Williamstown.

GEORGE W. CHASE, North Adams.

*WILLIAM L. CHASE, Brookline.

CHRISTOPHER CLARKE, Northampton.

CHARLES R. CODMAN, Cotuit.

ELISHA S. CONVERSE, Malden.

DELORAINE P. COREY, Malden.

* Deceased.

CHARLES H. DALTON, Boston.
 WILLIAM C. ENDICOTT, Salem.
 GEORGE A. FARLOW, Boston.
 DESMOND FITZGERALD, Brookline.
 J. D. W. FRENCH, North Andover.
 E. B. GILLET, Westfield.
 J. EVARTS GREENE, Worcester.
 JAMES S. GRINNELL, Greenfield.
 SIDNEY F. HASKELL, Gloucester.
 AUGUSTUS HEMENWAY, Canton.
 HENRY M. LOVERING, Taunton.
 GEORGE C. MANN, Jamaica Plain.
 ROBERT S. MINOT, Manchester.
 ROBERT O. MORRIS, Springfield.
 NATHANIEL MORTON, Plymouth.
 FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED, Jr., Brookline.
 HENRY I. PARKER, Worcester.
 JOHN ROBINSON, Salem.
 *JOHN J. RUSSELL, Plymouth.
 *LEVERETT SALTONSTALL, Newton.
 NATHANIEL S. SHALER, Tisbury.
 HENRY R. SHAW, Boston.
 *WILLIAM S. SHURTLEFF, Springfield.
 *DANIEL D. SLADE, Newton.
 JOSEPH TUCKER, Pittsfield.
 GEORGE H. TUCKER, Pittsfield.
 *FRANCIS A. WALKER, Boston.
 WILLIAM WHITING, Holyoke.
 MOSES WILLIAMS, Brookline.
 FRANK H. WRIGHT, Great Barrington.
 WALTER C. WRIGHT, Medford.

* Deceased.

FOUNDERS.

Miss ELLEN CHASE, Brookline.
 Mrs. MARY F. CUNNINGHAM, Milton.
 *JOSEPH STORY FAY, Falmouth.
 *JOHN M. FORBES, Milton.
 Mrs. JOHN M. FORBES, Milton.
 Mrs. EDITH E. FORBES, Milton.
 EDWARD W. FORBES, Milton.
 Miss EDITH FORBES, Milton.
 J. MALCOLM FORBES, Milton.
 AUGUSTUS HEMENWAY, Canton.
 WILLIAM MINOT, Boston.
 CHARLES SEDGWICK MINOT, Milton.
 ROBERT SEDGWICK MINOT, Manchester.
 LAURENCE MINOT, Boston.
 GEORGE R. R. RIVERS, Milton.
 Miss MARY RIVERS, Milton.
 *Mrs. FANNY FOSTER TUDOR, Boston.
 GEORGE WIGGLESWORTH, Milton.

LIFE ASSOCIATES.

HARRISON O. APTHORP, Milton.
 Mrs. HARRISON O. APTHORP, Milton.
 HENRY BROOKS, Lincoln.
 PETER C. BROOKS, Boston.
 SHEPHERD BROOKS, Boston.
 J. HENRY BROOKS, Milton.
 JOSEPH BREWER, Milton.
 EDWARD M. BREWER, Milton.
 Miss BREWER, Milton.
 JOHN C. COBB, Milton.
 Mrs. LOUIS CABOT, Brookline.

Miss C. H. CABOT, Brookline.
 Mrs. EDWARD M. CARY, Milton.
 Miss HESTER CUNNINGHAM, Milton.
 ARTHUR F. ESTABROOK, Boston.
 W. E. C. EUSTIS, Milton.
 GEORGE A. FARLOW, Boston.
 Mrs. ROSE D. FORBES, Milton.
 J. MURRAY FORBES, Milton.
 W. CAMERON FORBES, Westwood.
 Miss C. F. FORBES, Milton.
 RALPH E. FORBES, Milton.
 HORATIO J. GILBERT, Milton.
 SAMUEL GANNETT, Milton.
 H. C. GALLAGHER, Milton.
 Mrs. GRIFFITH, Milton.
 H. H. HUNNEWELL, Boston.
 A. L. HOLLINGSWORTH, Milton.
 Miss M. C. JACKSON, Boston.
 HELEN L. JAQUES, Milton.
 C. L. JAQUES, Milton.
 Miss AMELIA H. JONES, New Bedford.
 Mrs. MARY L. JONES, New Bedford.
 NATHANIEL T. KIDDER, Milton.
 WILLIAM C. LORING, Boston.
 WILLIAM J. LADD, Boston.
 Mrs. HENRY LEE, Brookline.
 H. A. LAMB, Milton.
 Mrs. JOHN C. PHILLIPS, Boston.
 Mrs. OLIVER PEABODY, Milton.
 WALLACE L. PIERCE, Milton.
 JAMES SAVAGE RUSSELL, Milton.
 Miss MARION RUSSELL, Boston.
 Mrs. HENRY S. RUSSELL, Milton.
 CHARLES S. SARGENT, Brookline.
 JOHN E. THAYER, South Lancaster.
 WILLIAM WHITING, Holyoke.
 EDWARD WHEELWRIGHT, Boston.
 ELLERTON P. WHITNEY, Milton.
 HARRIET F. WOLCOTT, Boston.

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC RESERVATIONS, CHAPTER 352, ACTS OF 1891.

SECTION 1. Frederick L. Ames, Philip A. Chase, Christopher Clarke, Charles R. Codman, Elisha S. Converse, George F. Hoar, John J. Russell, Leverett Saltonstall, Charles S. Sargent, Nathaniel S. Shaler, George Sheldon, William S. Shurtleff, George H. Tucker, Francis A. Walker, George Wigglesworth, their associates and successors, are hereby made a corporation by the name of The Trustees of Public Reservations, for the purpose of acquiring, holding, arranging, maintaining, and opening to the public, under suitable regulations, beautiful and historical places and tracts of land within this Commonwealth, with the powers and privileges and subject to the duties set forth in chapter one hundred and fifteen of the Public Statutes and in such other general laws as now are or hereafter may be in force relating to such corporations; but said corporation shall have no capital stock.

SECT. 2. Said corporation may acquire and hold by grant, gift, devise, purchase, or otherwise, real estate such as it may deem worthy of preservation for the enjoyment of the public, but not exceeding one million dollars in value, and such other property, both real and personal, as may be necessary or proper to support or promote the objects of the corporation, but not exceeding in the aggregate the further sum of one million dollars.

SECT. 3. All personal property held by said corporation, and all lands which it may cause to be opened and kept open to the public, and all lands which it may acquire and hold with this object in view, shall be exempt from taxation in the same manner and to the same extent as the property of literary, benevolent, charitable, and scientific institutions incorporated within this Commonwealth is now exempt by law; but no lands so acquired and held and not open to the public shall be so exempt from taxation for a longer period than two years. Said corporation shall never make any division or dividend of or from its property or income among its members.

SECT. 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

BY-LAWS OF THE TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC RESERVATIONS.

ARTICLE I.

OF MEMBERS.

The members of the corporation shall be residents of Massachusetts, and their number shall not exceed fifty.

The Standing Committee may, if it sees fit, nominate persons to membership by inserting the names of candidates upon the notice or warning of any meeting. The election shall take place at any meeting subsequent to such notice, and shall be by ballot upon the names proposed by the Standing Committee; and any person who receives the votes of two-thirds of the members present and voting shall, on his acceptance in writing of his election, be declared and enrolled a member of the corporation. Membership may be terminated by resignation, and shall be terminated by failure for three successive years to attend the annual meeting; but in the latter case the Standing Committee may by vote suspend the operation of this rule when it sees best.

ARTICLE II.

OF FOUNDERS, LIFE ASSOCIATES, AND CONTRIBUTORS.

All persons from whom the corporation shall receive real or personal property to the value of one thousand dollars or more shall be permanently enrolled as Founders.

All persons not entitled to be enrolled as Founders, from whom the corporation shall receive real or personal property to the value of one hundred dollars or more, shall be enrolled during life as Life Associates.

All persons, societies, or corporations not entitled to be enrolled as Founders or Life Associates, from whom the corporation shall receive one or more dollars, shall be enrolled as contributors for the year in which payment of such sum is made.

ARTICLE III.

OF MEETINGS.

1. The annual meeting of the corporation shall be held on the last Wednesday in January in Boston or at such other city or town in the Commonwealth, and at such time and place, as the Standing Committee may determine. A quorum for the transaction of business shall consist of not less than seven members, but a majority of the members present and voting may adjourn any meeting from time to time until the business shall have been finished.

In the event of the annual meeting, by mistake or otherwise, not being called and held 'as herein prescribed, the Standing Committee shall order a special meeting to be called and held in lieu of and for the purposes of the annual meeting.

Special meetings of the corporation may be called by the Standing Committee, to meet at any time and place. A quorum at a special meeting shall consist of not less than seven members.

2. At all meetings the President shall take the chair as soon as a quorum is present; and the record of the preceding meeting shall then be read, unless such reading is dispensed with by the unanimous consent of those present. After which at all special meetings the business for which the meeting was called shall be transacted, and at the annual meeting the order of business shall be as follows:—

First.—The unfinished business and the assignments of the last meeting shall be announced by the Secretary to the President, and taken up in order.

Second.—The Secretary shall be called on to submit a written report of the doings of the Standing Committee for the year ending with the previous 31st of December.

Third.—The Treasurer shall be called upon to submit a written

report of his doings for the year ending with the previous 31st of December, and the financial condition of the corporation at that date.

Fourth.—The Committee to audit the Treasurer's accounts shall be called on for a report.

Fifth.—Any special committee which may have been appointed during the year shall be called on to report.

Sixth.—If the Standing Committee shall have proposed changes in the By-laws, the same shall be voted upon, as provided in Article VII.

Seventh.—If the Standing Committee shall have made any nominations to membership in the corporation, an election shall be held, as provided in Article I.

Eighth.—An election of officers for the ensuing year shall be held as provided in Article IV., Section 1.

Ninth.—On the announcement of the vote the newly elected President shall take the chair, and shall give the members present an opportunity to present new business.

Tenth.—The newly elected President shall appoint a committee to audit the Treasurer's accounts.

ARTICLE IV.

OF OFFICERS.

1. The officers of the corporation shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be *ex-officiis* members of the Standing Committee, which shall consist of seven persons in all. The officers and the Standing Committee shall be chosen by ballot at the annual meeting of the corporation, an adjournment thereof, or at a meeting in lieu of such annual meeting, as above provided; and they shall hold their offices for one year, or until others are duly chosen and qualified in their stead. Any vacancy occurring in any of the above offices from death, resignation, or inability, shall be filled by the Standing Committee at their next regular meeting or at a special meeting to be called for the purpose before such regular meeting.

2. The President shall preside at all meetings of the corporation. If he is absent, the Vice-president, and, if the Vice-president is also absent, a President *pro tempore*, chosen by hand vote of the members of the corporation present, shall preside, and shall have all the powers and perform all the duties of the President.

3. The Secretary shall warn the members of all meetings of the corporation, according as he may be directed by votes of the Standing Committee. He shall call the meetings of the Standing Committee as he may be directed by the chairman of the committee or on the request in writing of any two members thereof. He shall carry on all the correspondence of the corporation not otherwise provided for, and shall, when the correspondence is of importance, preserve copies of the letters sent and the original letters received, for transmission with his records to his successor in office. He shall keep an exact record of all meetings of the corporation and of the Standing Committee, with the names of the members present, entering in full all reports of committees which may be accepted by either body, unless otherwise directed.

At the January meeting of the Standing Committee he shall make a written report of the doings of that body for the year ending on the previous 31st of December; and, if the report is approved, he shall present it at the annual meeting of the corporation.

4. The Treasurer shall, when directed, as provided in the next paragraph, make disbursements; and he shall also collect all moneys due to the corporation, and shall keep regular and faithful accounts of all the moneys and funds of the corporation which shall come into his hands and of all receipts and expenditures connected with the same, which accounts shall always be open to the inspection of members of the corporation. He shall make no investments and pay no moneys without either the approval of a majority of the Standing Committee or else of such officer or committee as said Standing Committee shall appoint to act for it in these matters.

At the January meeting of the Standing Committee he shall make a written report of his doings for the year ending on the previous 31st of December; and, if his report is approved, he shall present it at the annual meeting of the corporation.

ARTICLE V.

OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE.

The Standing Committee shall, at its first meeting after the annual meeting of the corporation in each year, elect a chairman, whose duty it shall be to preside at all meetings of the committee. In his absence a chairman *pro tempore* may be chosen by hand vote.

The Standing Committee shall meet at least once in every month, and a quorum shall consist of not less than three members.

The Standing Committee may nominate or refuse to nominate new members of the corporation, may accept or decline gifts offered to the corporation, may approve or disapprove investments or expenditures proposed by the Treasurer, may approve or disapprove all bills against the corporation, may appoint sub-committees of their number, may appoint and remove agents, may engage whatever assistance is needed to administer the affairs of the corporation, may designate such agents and employees by such titles as they may deem proper, and, in general, may exercise all the executive powers of the corporation.

ARTICLE VI.

OF THE SEAL.

The corporate seal shall be a circular, flat-faced die of about an inch and a half in diameter, with the name of the corporation, the year of its organization, the word "Massachusetts," and the figure of a pine-tree so engraved on its face that it can be embossed on paper by pressure.

ARTICLE VII.

OF AMENDMENTS.

At any annual meeting of the corporation, or at a special meeting called for the purpose, these By-laws may be amended, altered, or repealed by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, provided that notice of such proposed change shall have been given in the call of the meeting.

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC RESERVATIONS.

The Standing Committee of the Trustees of Public Reservations submit herewith their Eighth Annual Report.

A notable addition has been made this year to the holdings of this Board. From the highest point on the road which crosses over Milton Hill, in the town of Milton, there is one of the loveliest views in Massachusetts. This spot has an historical interest as well; for here was the site of Governor Hutchinson's summer home, of which he wrote as follows, "My house is seven or eight miles from town, a pleasant situation; and many gentlemen from abroad say it has the finest prospect from it they ever saw, except where great improvements have been made by art to help the natural view." Fortunately, the "great improvements" have never been attempted; and the lovely view across the Neponset meadows, through which the dark river winds on its way to the sea in the background, is still the same picture of rural beauty. On the left, Boston has grown to metropolitan proportions; but on the right are the Blue Hills, still a forest, and to be preserved as such as a public reservation forever. Succeeding generations have found the hill as attractive as Hutchinson describes, and its sides and eminences are covered with the houses of fortunate people. Only in one place, but that happily the best for the purpose, has the view from the road to the east remained open.

Here is an open field fronting about 682 feet on the street, and stretching down the side of the hill until it meets the banks of the river. This land was partly the property of the late John M. Forbes and of his sister, Mrs. Mary F. Cunningham, and was partly held by trustees of the Russell estate. Shortly before his death Mr. Forbes conveyed his portion, consisting of 120,000 feet, to this Board, to be kept open as a public reservation; and at the same time Mrs. Cunningham deeded her lot of 186,339 feet, to be held on like terms. The remaining portion of the premises, consisting of 125,186 feet, was purchased with the proceeds of a subscription contributed to, not alone by citizens of Milton, but by many other people to whom the preservation of this well-known bit of scenery seemed a worthy object. Those who are not familiar with the spot can obtain some idea of its beauty, under the changing aspects of cloud and sky, from the illustration which accompanies this report. This open field is directly opposite the site of Governor Hutchinson's mansion house, and was a portion of the governor's estate. Therefore, this generous gift to the public doubly fills the purposes for which this Board was created,—to acquire and hold for the public beautiful and historical places in Massachusetts.

Mention has been made in previous reports of the homestead of Rufus Putnam at Rutland, and of the efforts being made by citizens of Massachusetts and Ohio to secure its preservation. This has been an object appealing with especial force to the President of this Board, Hon. George Frisbie Hoar, the senior Senator of this Commonwealth. The place which General Putnam fills in the early history of the United States, his services to his country and their peculiar value, were eloquently set forth by Senator Hoar in his oration at Marietta during the centennial celebration of the founding of the North-west Territory several years ago, and again in an address delivered at Rutland last September, when a tablet was placed upon the house by the

Massachusetts Society of the Sons of the Revolution. In the latter address the results of Putnam's public life are summed up in the following words:—

“To the genius of Rufus Putnam was due the favorable result at three great turning-points in American history. It was his skill as an engineer that compelled the evacuation of Boston. It was his skill as an engineer that fortified West Point. To him was due the settlement of the Ohio territory and the adoption of the Ordinance of 1787, which dedicated the North-west forever to freedom, education, and religion, and in the end saved the United States from becoming a great slaveholding empire.”

The house where Putnam lived was the cradle of the Ohio Company, and its preservation as a memorial and a reminder of public service unselfishly performed is a worthy object. The house, which is in a good state of preservation, and the farm of about one hundred and fifty acres, has been purchased with the proceeds of a subscription, and is now held by a committee who desire to turn it over to the Trustees of Public Reservations to hold and maintain for the public. Your committee is here met again with a difficulty which has frequently been mentioned in its reports. They heartily approve of the preservation of this interesting and historical homestead, and fully appreciate the earnest and unselfish labor of those who have succeeded in securing it; but, if it is transferred, this Board is charged with seeing that the property is properly cared for and kept in repair. The case presented is different from that of an object of natural scenery, for which local protection of the authorities can be secured without expense and no repairs are required. Even in the case of lands, however, it has been customary, where some development was likely to be demanded in the future, to require a fund to be established to provide an income for the purpose. It is possible that something might be realized from the estate; but, as this element is an uncertain one, your committee has been constrained to say in this case, as

in others, that until a fund for the care of the property is assured the transfer must be delayed.

This example again brings to the front the question of a general fund of which the Board is in need in order that it may do more useful work. The fact must not be lost sight of that this Board was created; not to give, but only to receive and hold. It has, therefore, never asked for any appropriation from the legislature; nor in the opinion of your committee is it clear that it would at this time be desirable for it so to do. The purpose of the organization was to provide the private citizen the means for carrying out a generous impulse to devote to the public some beautiful bit of scenery or historic spot of interest. There was a farther provision in its charter, however, which has generally been overlooked, and has only been taken advantage of by a few persons. The Board is authorized to receive gifts of money to be used for the purposes of the corporation. If a general fund of a few thousand dollars could be raised and invested, the income therefrom could be made to bear fruit abundantly.

There is but little to say as to the present holdings of the Board, except that they are in a good condition and continue to give enjoyment to those who use them. Virginia Wood, now a part of the Middlesex Fells, is cared for by the Metropolitan Park Commission. A few of its noble pines succumbed to the fury of the tremendous storm of November; but, beyond that, no harm has come to this lovely wood. Goodwill Park in Falmouth is unchanged, and the appropriations from the town of Falmouth suffice to keep the roads and woods in order. The establishment of a private water company in Falmouth, with a pumping-station near the park, gave the committee some uneasiness; but the officials of the company have given assurances that their work will in no way interfere with the attractiveness of the pond. It is unfortunate, however, that the entire shores of the pond are not a part of this park; and the town of Falmouth should be

encouraged to add them so far as possible to Mr. Fay's noble gift. Rocky Narrows is almost inaccessible except to those who know the beauties of the Charles River from the canoe. Arrangements have been made with the trustees of the Medfield Insane Asylum, who control the opposite shore at this point, to give these lands the same care that is given to their own. A slight amount of forestry work can be well done, however; and the generous giver of this sylvan spot has offered to provide the funds necessary for its improvement.

Mount Anne Park at Gloucester is largely visited by the people of Gloucester and the neighboring towns. It seems to be generally desired that on the summit of the mountain some sort of a platform or tower should be erected which will enable one to get more distant views than are allowed by the tree growth which extends quite to the summit. This rock-crowned hill furnishes an excellent foundation for such a structure, and the erection of something in the nature of an observatory is only a matter of expense. Whatever is done, however, must be so accomplished as not to add an element of artificiality to the character of this reservation, which, it is wisely and graphically required by the conditions of the deed, shall be forever maintained as a wild park.

In the last report your committee reported that they would seek legislation to further limit the offensive use of the highway for advertising purposes. A statute of the Commonwealth already provided a penalty for using private property for this purpose without consent of the owner. What is not generally known is that trees, stones, posts, poles, and other like objects in the highway are as much private property in most cases as similar objects on a man's private land. In the vast majority of cases advertisements painted or posted on objects in the highways are plain violations of the statute above referred to; but they have continued to exist, and the persons affixing them have escaped punishment because citizens and property owners were ignorant of their rights.

To make this clear, the law referred to has been amended at the request of this Board. The statute, as amended, expressly states that it applies equally to private property within and without the limits of the highway. It further requires that the permission of the owner must be obtained in writing. It further authorizes any person to remove or obliterate an advertisement in the highway which has been affixed or painted on any object therein without the written consent of the owner. The statute as amended reads as follows :—

ACTS OF 1898, CHAPTER 500.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE DISFIGUREMENT OF OBJECTS BY THE POSTING OF ADVERTISEMENTS OR OTHERWISE.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows :—

SECTION 1. Section one hundred and two of chapter two hundred and three of the Public Statutes is hereby amended by striking out the whole of said section and inserting in place thereof the following: Section 102. Whoever paints or puts upon, or in any manner affixes to any fence, structure, pole, rock, or other object, the property of another, whether within or without the limits of the highway, any words, device, trade-mark, advertisement, or notice, not required by law to be posted thereon, without first obtaining the written consent of the owner or tenant of such property, shall, on complaint of such owner or his tenant, or any municipal or public officer, be punished by fine not exceeding ten dollars.

SECT. 2. Any word, device, trade-mark, advertisement, or notice, painted, put up, or affixed within the limits of a highway in violation of the provisions of the preceding section of this act shall be deemed to be a public nuisance; and may be forthwith removed or obliterated and abated by any person.

SECT. 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of July in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight.

[Approved June 6, 1898.]

Another attempt to limit offensive advertising was before

the legislature last year, but was not successful, the bill presented having failed of passage by a narrow margin. Its object was to place under the control of the local Park Commissioners the regulation of public advertisements within a certain distance of parks and parkways. The ground upon which it was supported was that the exhibition of offensive advertisements in the immediate neighborhood of parks and parkways tends to take away the value of these lands for the purpose for which they have been secured by the public at large expense. Objection was made that it deprived land-owners of a more or less valuable privilege in letting their lands for the erection of bill boards. This argument overlooks the fact that, until the park or parkway is laid out, the land has no value for such a purpose. The proposition is not, therefore, to take a value from the land which it already has, but to prevent the land-owners from taking from the land which the public has bought for a park or parkway that element of restfulness and beauty for which it was acquired. As a matter of fact, it was not land-owners who opposed the bill, nor advertisers, but solicitors of advertisements, who feared that the scope of their opportunities of exhibition of advertisements might be limited. The bill is again before the legislature, and your committee are united in the hope that it may receive enactment.

The interest in things beautiful and of historical interest has increased to a noticeable degree since this Board was created. The habit of outdoor exercise which has become so general both with men and women in recent years has brought them in closer contact with the beauties of nature. The establishment of the various patriotic orders and even the occurrence of war have had a beneficial effect in bringing to our people a more intimate knowledge of the history of their country and an interest in the memorials of its history.

Movements similar to the one which led to the establishment of this Board have been started in other places, and

especially has an interest in the preservation of our national and local forests developed.

It must always be a pleasure to the members of this corporation to have been a part of this onward movement in civilization.

PHILIP A. CHASE,

Chairman.

CHARLES S. SARGENT.

HENRY P. WALCOTT.

NATHANIEL T. KIDDER.

CHARLES S. RACKEMANN.

GEORGE WIGGLESWORTH,

Treasurer.

JOHN WOODBURY,

Secretary.

Dr.

LAND ON MILTON HILL, MASS.

Cr.

1898.

Oct. 19. To cash subscribed for purchase of portion of land in the Reservation on Milton Hill \$26,085.00

1899.

Jan. 1. To balance \$335.00

1898.

Oct. 21. By cash paid for portion of the above land \$25,750.00*
Dec. 31. By balance 335.00

\$26,085.00

*Price in deed \$31,250.00
Contributed by some of the
grantors 5,500.00

\$25,750.00

Dr.

TRIAL BALANCE.

Cr.

Cash \$1,271.96

Profit and loss \$239.24
Harrison Account 222.57
Land on Milton Hill 335.00
Virginia Wood Account 475.15

\$1,271.96

\$1,271.96

The undersigned have examined the accounts and vouchers of the Treasurer of the Trustees of Public Reservations for the year 1898, and find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

JANUARY, 1899.

D. P. COREY,
NATHANIEL T. KIDDER, } *Auditing Committee.*
ROBERT S. MINOT,

APPENDICES.

RUFUS PUTNAM.

AN ADDRESS BY HON. GEORGE F. HOAR, AT RUTLAND, MASS.,
SEPT. 17, 1898.

This Society does well to mark with visible and enduring tablets the spots where great deeds have been performed or great men have been born or dwelt. Whatever Massachusetts has done, whatever she is doing, whatever she is to accomplish hereafter, is largely owing to the fact that she has kept unbroken the electric current flowing from soul to soul forever and forever, as it was generated now nearly three hundred years ago at Plymouth. Her generations have taken hold of hands.

The men of Plymouth Rock and of Salem, the men who cleared the forest, the heroes of the Indian and the old French wars, the men who imprisoned Andros, the men who fought the Revolution, the men who humbled the power of France at Louisburg and the power of Spain at Martinique and Havana, the men who won our independence and builded our Constitution, the sailors of the great sea fights of the War of 1812, the soldiers who saved the Union, and the men who went with Hobson on the "Merrimac," or fought with Dewey at Manila, or under Sampson or before the trenches at Santiago, have been of one temper from the beginning, — the old Massachusetts spirit, which we hope may endure and abide until time shall be no more.

We guard with an affectionate reverence even the tombs and burial-places where the dust of our ancestors has been laid. As the great orator of New England said nearly eighty years ago: —

We naturally look with strong emotions to the spot, though it be a wilderness, where the ashes of those we have loved repose.

Where the heart has laid down what it loved most, there it is desirous of laying itself down. No sculptured marble, no enduring monument, no honorable inscription, no ever-burning taper that would drive away the darkness of the tomb, can soften our sense of the reality of death and hallow to our feelings the ground which is to cover us, like the consciousness that we shall sleep, dust to dust, with the objects of our affection.

But, after all, we cherish with greater and more intense reverence the places where those whom we love and honor have dwelt in life, the scenes on which their living eyes gazed and to which the living forms were familiar, especially the scenes where the great heroes and statesmen of the past have dwelt, or the great beneficent actions which have determined the currents of our history have been performed.

It is such a man and such a deed that we are here to celebrate to-day. Many facts illustrating the character of Rufus Putnam and the service he performed for his country have been brought to light for the first time by the researches of recent investigation and the publication of records hitherto little known or explored, especially the archives in the Department of State and the diaries and correspondence of some of his associates.

Rufus Putnam was one of those men, rare in all generations, perhaps more rare now than formerly, who seem to be almost absolutely without care for self. He seems to have been indifferent to fame. He had little use for the first personal pronoun in his speech or his writings. He was content to accomplish useful results. He was intent upon the goal, not upon the prize. If he could accomplish useful results, he cared nothing for the pride or glory of the achievement.

Among the chief elements of his greatness is his great unconsciousness. So much the more is it the duty of posterity to guard his fame and pay him his due meed of credit and honor. To the genius of Rufus Putnam was due the favorable result at three great turning-points in American history.

It was his skill as an engineer that compelled the evacuation of Boston. It was his skill as an engineer that fortified West Point. To him was due the settlement of the Ohio Territory, and the

adoption of the Ordinance of 1787, which dedicated the Northwest forever to freedom, education, and religion, and in the end saved the United States from becoming a great slaveholding empire.

The limit of the time at my command compels me to relate these great transactions rapidly. It must be but a sketch, a glance. But I will take time enough to make out my case.

If the British could have held Boston until sufficient re-enforcements could have come over from England, it would have paralyzed the arm of Massachusetts, the State which not only furnished more soldiers to the war than all the Southern States put together, but, what is not so well known, put upon the sea more sailors than the entire number of the whole Continental army put together,—a naval power which, before the French alliance, raised the rate of marine insurance in England to 28 per cent., and caused the merchants of Great Britain to compel George III. and Lord North to make peace.

The investment of Boston by the patriotic forces and the expulsion of the British was one of the most successful audacities of military history. The British were intrenched on a peninsula only accessible by a single narrow neck of land. They were an army of trained veterans 8,000 strong, supported by a powerful fleet whose seamen brought up the force to 11,000, having in the harbor at their command 120 transports well provisioned, well equipped with ample supplies of ammunition and cannon. They were in the best of spirits. The officers and men alike beguiled their time with stage plays, masquerades, and other diversions, in comfortable quarters, without a thought of danger. Lord Howe informed the ministry that there was not the slightest fear of an attack. They had, of course, full command of the harbor, into which vessels were constantly bringing provisions in abundance.

On the other hand, Washington had under his command a band of undisciplined husbandmen, scarcely 14,000 in number, with a few cannon which had been captured from the enemy, and a few that had been dragged overland from Lake George. He had at best, as Mr. Bancroft states, only powder enough to supply his

few cannon for six or eight days. His men had not been paid since the first of the preceding December. The greater part of his men were enlisted for but two months.

The resources of England seemed almost inexhaustible, and she had also engaged re-enforcements of more than 20,000 German mercenaries. England could wait. Every day increased her strength and courage. Every day diminished the hopes of the patriots.

Washington must fight at this great disadvantage, or the cause of the country seemed hopeless. He had determined, at whatever risk, to march his men across the ice against Boston, unless some plan for commanding the town from the neighboring heights, an attempt which had so signally failed at Bunker Hill, should be found feasible.

We shall see in a moment what Rufus Putnam contributed to this accomplishment, but for which the strength of Massachusetts must have been subtracted from the cause of independence. You know well what would have become of the cause of independence without it.

West Point, after Rufus Putnam fortified it, was to the war of the Revolution what Vicksburg was to the war of the Rebellion. It prevented the separation of New England from the rest of the country, as Vicksburg, while it commanded the Mississippi, prevented the separation of the States in rebellion in the East and West. The difference was that our Vicksburg was never captured.

I shall speak a little later of the historical results of the settlement of Ohio and the Ordinance of 1787. I will first give a brief sketch of the life of Rufus Putnam down to the time when he came to this house in Rutland and the time when he left it to found an empire in the North-west, carrying with him the fate of America.

Rufus Putnam was born in Sutton, in this county, on the 9th of April (O.S.), 1738. He came of a race of Worcester and Essex County yeomen, distinguished in every generation, so far as we know their history, for public spirit, simplicity, integrity, and common sense.

He was cousin, with a single remove, of General Israel Putnam, the man "who dared to lead where any man dared to follow." He was, I think, the grand-nephew of Joseph Putnam, father of Israel, another hero of the old Putnam breed, who defied another horrible she-wolf, the witchcraft delusion, at the height of its power in the very den where it was born.

Elisha Putnam, father of Rufus, died when the son was seven years old. General Putnam's account of his family says his father was a much respected citizen, town clerk, a deacon in the church, and representative from Sutton in the General Court. He died June 10, 1745.

His mother married again. The stepfather seems to have cared little for the child. He was illiterate himself, and despised learning. The little boy, as he tells us in a pathetic diary written late in life, had no chance to go to school, and little opportunity for learning at home. No books were furnished him, and he had little time to use books, if he had them.

Captain Sadler, the step-father, kept a tavern. Rufus got a few pennies by waiting upon guests and blacking their boots, with which he bought powder, and, with the help of an old gun, killed some partridges, which he sold, and with the proceeds bought a spelling-book and an arithmetic. From these he learned what he could, and got as far as the rule of three in arithmetic. But the miserly step-father would not allow him the light of a tallow candle in the long winter evenings, and ridiculed his aspirations for learning.

In March, 1754, Putnam was apprenticed to Daniel Mathews, of Brookfield. He was then nearly sixteen years old. Mathews was a millwright. Putnam never attended school but three days after he was nine years old.

His employer, more generous than had been the step-father, gave him the use of candles for the long winter evenings. He studied arithmetic, geography, and history. He extended his knowledge of mathematics and engineering, for which he had a natural aptness. His physical frame grew as rapidly as his mind. When he was eighteen years old, he had the full vigor and stature of a man six feet high. He was renowned for his great strength and activity in all athletic exercises.

It was to those winter evenings in North Brookfield and the studies by the light of the tallow candle that his country owed the ablest engineer officer of the Revolution, and the wise, far-sighted intellect that decided the fate of America.

I have, in my time, known many men famous in war, in statesmanship, in science, in the professions, and in business. If I were asked to declare the secret of their success, I should attribute it, in general, not to any superiority of natural genius, but to the use they made in youth, after the ordinary day's work was over, of the hours which other men throw away or devote to idleness or rest.

Putnam enlisted in the old French war at the age of nineteen. His adventures in that war sound like one of Cooper's romances. He saved enough of his bounty and pay to buy a small farm. He married in April, 1761, Elizabeth, daughter of William Ayers, of Brookfield, who died shortly afterward. Jan. 10, 1765, he married again Persis Rice, of Westboro, who was the mother of his children.

He was made lieutenant colonel of a Worcester County regiment at the outbreak of the Revolution, and joined the camp at Cambridge just after the battle of April 19. His genius as an engineer was soon disclosed. He was, as Washington expressly and repeatedly certified, the ablest engineer officer of the war whether American or Frenchman.

He was soon called by a council of general and field officers to direct the construction of a large part of the works on which the position of the army besieging Boston depended. He told Washington he had never read a word on that branch of science. But the chieftain would take no denial. He performed his task to the entire satisfaction of his commander, and was soon ordered to superintend the defences of Providence and Newport.

One evening in the winter of 1775-76 Putnam was invited to dine at headquarters. Washington detained him after the company had departed to consult him about an attack on Boston. The general preferred an intrenchment on Dorchester Heights, which would compel Howe to attack him and risk another Bunker Hill engagement with a different result, to marching his own

troops over the ice to storm the town. But the ground was frozen to a great depth, and resisted the pickaxe like solid rock.

Putnam was ordered to consider the matter, and, if he could find any way to execute Washington's plan, to report at once. He himself best tells the story of the accident—we may almost say the miracle—by which the deliverance of Massachusetts from the foreign invader, a veteran British army, eleven thousand strong, was wrought by the instrumentality of the millwright's apprentice:—

I left the headquarters in company with another gentleman, and on our way came to General Heath's. I had no thoughts of calling until I came against his door, and then I said, "Let us call on General Heath," to which he agreed. I had no other motive but to pay my respects to the general. While there I cast my eye on a book which lay on the table, lettered on the back "Muller's Field Engineer." I immediately requested the general to lend it to me. He denied me. I repeated my request. He again refused, and told me he never lent his books. I told him that he must recollect that he was one who, at Roxbury, in a measure compelled me to undertake a business which, at the time, I confessed I had never read a word about, and that he must let me have the book. After some more excuses on his part and close pressing on mine, I obtained the loan of it.

In looking at the table of contents, his eye was caught by the word "chandelier," a new word to him. He read carefully the description, and saw its importance at a glance. The chandeliers were made of stout timbers, ten feet long, into which were framed posts five feet high and five feet apart, placed on the ground in parallel lines, and the open spaces filled in with bundles of fascines, strongly picketed together, thus forming a movable parapet of wood instead of earth, as theretofore done.

Putnam soon had his plan ready. The men were immediately set to work in the adjacent apple orchard and woodlands, cutting and bundling up the fascines and carrying them with the chandeliers on to the ground selected for the work. They were put in their place in a single night.

When the sun went down on Boston on the 4th of March, Washington was at Cambridge, and Dorchester Heights as nature

or the husbandmen had left them in the autumn. When Sir William Howe rubbed his eyes on the morning of the 5th, he saw through the heavy mists the intrenchments, on which, he said, the rebels had done more work in a night than his whole army would have done in a month. He wrote to Lord Dartmouth that it must have been the employment of at least 12,000 men. His own effective force, including seamen, was about 11,000. Washington had but 14,000 fit for duty.

"Some of our officers," said the *Annual Register*,—Edmund Burke was the writer,—“acknowledged that the expedition with which these works were thrown up, with their sudden and unexpected appearance, recalled to their minds the wonderful stories of enchantment and invisible agency which are so frequent in the Eastern romances.”

Howe was a man of spirit. He took the prompt resolution to attempt to dislodge the Americans the next night, before the works were made impregnable. Earl Percy, who had learned something of the Yankee quality at Bunker Hill and Lexington, was to command the assault. But the power that dispersed the Armada baffled all the plans of the British general. There came “a dreadful storm at night,” which made it impossible to cross the bay until the American works were perfected.

We take no leaf from the pure chaplet of Washington's fame when we say that the success of the first great military operation of the Revolution was due to Rufus Putnam. The Americans under Israel Putnam marched into Boston, drums beating and colors flying. The veteran British army, aided by a strong naval force, soldier and sailor, Englishman and Tory, sick and well, bag and baggage, got out of Boston before the strategy of Washington, the engineering of Putnam, and the courage of the despised and untried yeomen, from whose leaders they withheld the usual titles of military respect. “It resembled,” said Burke, “more the emigration of a nation than the breaking up of a camp.”

The history of the founding of Ohio and of the Ordinance of 1787 has been brought to light chiefly from researches in the Department of State, the publication of the diaries of Manasseh Cutler, the correspondence of Timothy Pickering, and the papers of Rufus King.

This is a fit occasion to tell the story of Putnam's share in these great transactions. April 7, 1783, Timothy Pickering, quartermaster-general in the armies of the United States, afterward Secretary of War, Secretary of State, Secretary of the Treasury, representative in Congress and senator, writes a letter to Mr. Hodgdon, in which is the following passage :—

A new plan is in contemplation, no less than forming a new State westward of the Ohio. About a week since the matter was set on foot, and a plan is digesting for the purpose. Enclosed is a rough draft of some proposition respecting it. They are in the hands of General Huntington and General Putnam for consideration, amendment, and addition.

The eleventh article of this draft enclosed in Pickering's letter contains this sentence : "The total exclusion of slavery from the State to form an essential and irrevocable part of the Constitution." General Huntington is not, so far as I know, heard of again in the transaction; but Putnam is found pressing the scheme thenceforth until its final accomplishment. April 14, 1783, Pickering again writes to Hodgdon. He says, "General Putnam is warmly engaged in the new-planned settlement on the Ohio."

Later a petition, signed by 288 officers in the Continental army, is presented to Congress, praying for the location and survey of the Western lands. This petition, in which Putnam heads the list of Massachusetts signers, is forwarded by him to Washington. A year later Putnam writes to Washington again, renewing his urgent application to him for aid in his project. He says the part he has taken in promoting the petition is well known. He has given much time to it since he left the army.

He specially urges the adoption of the New England township system. He asks the general to recommend to him some member of Congress with whom he can directly correspond, as he does not like even to hint these things to the delegates from Massachusetts, though worthy men, as Massachusetts is forming plans to sell her own Eastern lands. Washington answers that he has exerted every power with Congress that he is master of, and

has dwelt upon Putnam's argument for speedy decision, but that Congress has adjourned without action.

In 1785 Congress appointed General Putnam one of the surveyors of the North-western lands. Putnam accepted the office. He says in his letter of acceptance, "A wish to promote immigration from among my friends into that country, and not the wages stipulated, is my principal motive."

Putnam, however, had made some engagements which made it impossible for him to go in person to Ohio and make the survey. His friend, General Tupper, undertook the duty. Tupper could not get below Pittsburg in the season of 1785. He came back to Massachusetts with such knowledge of the country as he could get from inquiry, and reported to Putnam at Rutland in this house, on the 9th of January, 1786.

The two veterans sat up together all night. At daybreak they had completed a call for the convention to form a company. It was addressed to all officers and soldiers of the late war, and all other good citizens residing in Massachusetts who might wish to become purchasers of lands in the Ohio country. The invitation was to extend afterward to inhabitants of other States "as might be agreed on."

This convention was composed of delegates from the various counties in Massachusetts, met at the Bunch of Grapes in Boston, March 1, 1786, and chose a committee, of which Putnam was chairman, to draft a plan for the organization. This organization constituted the Ohio Company, of which Putnam, General Samuel H. Parsons, and Rev. Manasseh Cutler were chosen directors. Early in 1787 the directors appointed Putnam superintendent of all their affairs, and in the winter of 1786-87 the organization was completed and the associates selected.

It remained only to get the grant of the lands. There had been various schemes in Congress from March 1, 1784, for the organization of the North-west Territory. Jefferson reported one on the first day of March in that year, which contained a provision excluding slavery after 1800. The subsequent history proves beyond a question that a toleration of slavery until that time would have ended in making the whole territory slaveholding.

But even that limited and ineffective prohibition was stricken out by the Congress. March 16, 1785, Rufus King of Massachusetts offered a resolve that there should be no slavery in this territory. It was sent to a committee of which he was chairman, and amended by postponing the prohibition of slavery till 1800, and with a clause providing for the surrender of fugitive slaves. That was never acted upon, and died in committee.

In 1786 a new committee was raised to propose a plan for the government of the territory. They made a report which contained no prohibition of slavery whatever. That report also remained without action until the end of the Congress.

When Putnam had got his plan for the company ready and secured his associates, he sent General Parsons to Congress to secure the grant of the lands and the passage of an ordinance for the government of the territory. But Parsons returned, having accomplished absolutely nothing.

Putnam was not discouraged. He met Manasseh Cutler, the other director, in Boston, June 25, 1787; and it was agreed that Cutler should renew the attempt in which Jefferson and Rufus King and Parsons and Washington and several committees of the Continental Congress had so conspicuously failed.

Manasseh Cutler records in his diary, "I conversed with General Putnam, and settled the principles on which I am to contract with Congress for lands on account of the Ohio Company."

Cutler reached New York, where Congress was in session, on the 6th of July, and was introduced into their chamber. He explained his scheme to the members of Congress. In three days a new committee was appointed, the ordinance, which had expired with the last session, brought forward, and committed. A copy of the ordinance was sent to Cutler, that he might make remarks and prepare amendments.

The next day, the 10th, the ordinance was newly modelled. It was reported to Congress on the 11th. But it did not include the clause prohibiting slavery, because, as Nathan Dane, who reported it, said, he had no idea the States would agree to it. But Dane moved it as an amendment. It was inserted and passed unanimously, save the single vote of Abram Yates.

During the two or three days that this ordinance was pending the committee proposed to reject some of Cutler's amendments: he does not specify which. "Thereupon he paid his respects to all the members of Congress in the city, informed them of his intention to depart that day, and, if his terms were not acceded to, to turn his attention to some other part of the country."

They urged him, as he says, to "tarry till the next day, and they would put by all other business to complete the contract." He records further in his diary that "Congress came to the terms stated in our letter without the least variation."

Why was it that Congress came in three days to terms which the influence of Washington and of Jefferson had failed to accomplish for more than four years? Putnam and Cutler were masters of the situation. The Ohio Company might well dictate its own terms, even in dealing with the far-sighted statesmen of 1787.

The purchase and settlement of this large body of the public lands removed from their minds several subjects of deepest anxiety. It afforded a provision for the veterans of the war. It extinguished a considerable portion of the public debt. It largely increased the value of the rest of the public domain. It placed the shield of a settlement of veteran soldiers between the frontiers of New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia and the most dangerous and powerful Indian tribes on the continent.

It secured to American occupation a territory on which England, France, and Spain were still gazing with eager and longing eyes; in which England, in violation of treaty obligation, still held on to her military posts, hoping that the feeble band of our union would break in pieces. It removed a fear, never absent from the minds of the public men of that day, that the Western settlers would form a new confederacy and seek an alliance with the power that held the outlet of the Mississippi.

The strength of this last apprehension is shown in the confidential correspondence of Washington. He twice refers to it in his farewell address,—once when he warns the West against "an apostate and unnatural connection with any foreign power," and again when he urges them "henceforth to be deaf to those advisers, if such there are, who would sever them from their brethren and connect them with aliens."

Cutler returned to Massachusetts successful and in triumph. He was not himself one of the first settlers in Ohio, but his sons represented him.

Putnam led his company down the Ohio River to Marietta on board a galley appropriately named the "Mayflower," giving new honor and fragrance to the name. He landed with his little company of forty-eight men April 7, 1788.

There is no question that but for this clause in the ordinance that territory, if it had remained a part of the county, would have been slave territory. It would have been settled from Virginia and Kentucky. As it was, it was saved to freedom as by fire. The people of Indiana repeatedly petitioned Congress to be relieved from the clause prohibiting the introduction of slavery. A majority of the people of Illinois was pro-slavery, and the recognition of slavery in the first constitution of that State was only prevented by the dexterity and sagacity of Governor Coles.

When Ohio was admitted in 1802, the convention that framed her constitution contained a large number of the friends of slavery. Rufus Putnam, himself a member of the convention, called up late at night the son of Manasseh Cutler, also a member of the convention, from a sick-bed, told him of the danger, and the two patriots repaired to the chamber just in time to save the establishment of slavery, which was lost by a single vote.

Now, in the light of this history, if Rufus Putnam be not entitled to the credit of the Ordinance of 1787, and of having saved this country from becoming a great slaveholding empire, then Wellington is not entitled to the credit of Waterloo, or Washington to the credit of Yorktown, or Grant to the credit of Appomattox.

Putnam is the first person known to have in his possession five years before this enactment the plan for the organization of the Ohio Company, in which the total exclusion of slavery from the State was to form an essential and irrevocable part of the constitution. Then for the next four or five years he is found, and found alone, pressing that scheme upon the consideration of Washington, and through him upon a reluctant Congress.

He accepts the office of surveyor only that he may promote

this scheme. Not able to go himself, he receives from General Tupper in this house the information gained by him at Pittsburg. In this house is formed the plan of the Ohio Company, and from it he issued the call for its first convention. He is made chairman of the committee to draw up a perfected scheme. He is made by that company the general director of its affairs.

At its meeting in Boston, Nov. 21, 1787, he is chosen superintendent, "to be obeyed and respected accordingly." He sends Cutler to Congress, first having agreed with him in Boston upon the principles upon which the company will make the purchase. Is there any doubt that among those principles was the inexorable condition of the exclusion of slavery, which was in his hands and upon which he had determined from the beginning?

He leads the company to Marietta. On the first anniversary of the settlement of Marietta, in 1789, the company voted that the 7th of April be forever observed as a public festival, being, as they say, "the day when General Putnam commenced the settlement in this country."

All the contemporary histories of Ohio assign him this credit. Lossing calls him the father of Ohio. Burnet says, "He was regarded as their principal chief and leader." Harris dedicates the documents collected in his appendix to Rufus Putnam, the "founder and father of the State."

And at last, that the great drama might end as it began, his vote saved the State from the imposition of slavery by its constitutional convention in 1802. His vote—his single vote and his summons to the son of his old friend, Manasseh Cutler—secured the majority of one which saved the State from the imposition of slavery in 1802.

Suppose those five States, Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, which were formed from the Ohio territory, had been settled from Virginia, each of them another Missouri or another Kentucky? What think you would have been our condition to-day? A few States, perhaps, on our Eastern and Northern border without slavery, but subjected forever, if the Union had lasted, to the slaveholding rule of which we had experience, even as it was, for the generation before the breaking out of the rebellion. If

there be in the annals of this republic, save Washington and Lincoln alone, a benefactor whose deeds surpassed those of Rufus Putnam, I have read American history in vain.

Washington said of Rufus Putnam that he was the best engineer in the army, whether French or American. At the end of the war he directed Putnam to report a comprehensive plan for fortifying the whole country. I have seen General Putnam's elaborate scheme, I think among his papers at Marietta College or in the archives at Washington. It was never executed, in spite of earnest appeals of some of our ablest statesmen in every generation, from Washington to Jackson and Tilden and Eugene Hale.

It remains a monument of that national improvidence of which we have shown so many conspicuous examples, especially in the matter of preparation for defence and for war, and which during the last few months has even dimmed the glories of Manila and Santiago.

To be a great engineer is to be a great soldier. To be a great engineer with only such advantages of education as Rufus Putnam enjoyed is to be a man of consummate genius. But to have been the trusted friend of Washington, to have conceived as by a flash of inspiration the works with which an inferior force compelled England to evacuate a fortified town and to quit Massachusetts forever, to have constructed the very fortress and citadel of our strength and defence in the war of the Revolution, to have been in Lord Bacon's front rank of sovereign honor, to have founded a mighty State, herself the mother of mighty States, to have planned, constructed, and made impregnable the very citadel and fortress of liberty on this continent, to have turned the mighty stream of current and empire from the channel of slavery into the channel of freedom, there to flow forever and forever,—if this be not greatness, then there is no greatness among the living or the dead.

I must not leave your opinion of the value of the great work of Rufus Putnam to depend upon my testimony alone. Daniel Webster declared in his reply to Hayne: "We are accustomed to praise the lawgivers of antiquity; we help to perpetuate the fame of Solon and Lycurgus; but I doubt whether one single law

of any lawgiver, ancient or modern, has produced effects of more distinct, marked, and lasting character than the Ordinance of 1787.

"It fixed forever the character of the population in the vast regions north-west of the Ohio by excluding from them involuntary servitude. It impressed on the soil itself, while it was yet a wilderness, an incapacity to sustain any other than free men. It laid the interdict against personal servitude in original compact, not only deeper than all local law, but deeper also than all local constitutions."

Mr. Webster added, "We see the consequences of the ordinance at this moment; and we shall never cease to see them, perhaps, while the Ohio shall flow."

Judge Walker, the eminent jurist of Ohio, declares: "Upon the surpassing excellence of this ordinance no language of panegyric would be extravagant. The Romans would have imagined some divine Egeria for its author. It approaches as nearly to absolute perfection as anything to be found in the legislation of mankind, for after the experience of fifty years it would perhaps be impossible to alter without marring it. In short, it is one of those matchless specimens of sagacious forecast which even the reckless spirit of innovation would not venture to assail. The emigrant knew beforehand that this was a land of the highest political as well as natural promise, and under the auspices of another Moses he journeyed with confidence toward his new Canaan."

Judge Story says, "The ordinance is remarkable for its masterly display of the fundamental principles of civil and religious liberty."

Chief Justice Chase, in his sketch of the history of the "Statutes of Ohio," said: "Never, probably, in the history of the world, did a measure of legislation so accurately fulfil and yet so mightily exceed the anticipations of the legislators. The ordinance has well been described as having been a pillar of cloud by day and of fire by night, in the settlement and government of the North-western States."

During the years he lived in Rutland he gave himself without

stint to the service of the town. No work was too humble for him, if it were a duty or a service. He had the noble public spirit of his day. For five years he tilled this farm, and seems to have done everything his neighbors asked of him.

He was representative to the General Court, selectman, constable, tax collector, on a committee to lay out school lands, committee to make repairs of school-house, State surveyor, commissioner to treat with the Penobscot Indians, volunteer in putting down the Shays rebellion, on the committee to settle with Jabez Fairbanks. He was one of the founders and first trustees of the Leicester Academy, and, with his family of eight children, gave from his slender means £100 toward its endowment.

The rest of his life is, in large part, the history of Marietta for more than thirty years. "The impression of his character," says the historian, "is strongly marked in the history of Marietta, in their buildings, institutions, and manners."

Now this seems to me to be a good, honest, old-fashioned American story. It is a Massachusetts story. It is a Worcester County story, although we by no means pretend to a monopoly of such things in Massachusetts or in Worcester County. We have got over wondering at them. The boy went to school but three days after he was nine years old. That has happened before to many a boy who became a great man, from Ulysses to Abraham Lincoln.

A Worcester County farm in those days was a pretty good school. It was a pretty good school, both for the intellect and the heart. The boy learned the secrets of the forest and the field, the names and habits of bird and beast. He could take care of himself anywhere. He became an expert woodsman and sharpshooter.

He heard high topics discussed in the church,—I beg your pardon,—in the meeting-house. The talk by the blacksmith's forge and the tavern fire, and the rude drafting-board of the millwright, when the great political contest with England was pending, was of the true boundary between liberty and authority in the government of the State, and between men's free will and God's foreknowledge and omnipotence in the government of the universe.

The moral quality of our great English race, too, came out in that simple life of plain living and high thinking. Every day brought to those frugal households its lesson of affection, of self-sacrifice.

“Love had he found in huts where poor men lie :
His daily teachers had been woods and rills,
The silence that is in the starry sky,
The sleep that is among the lonely hills.”

The old French war, with its adventures and escapes through the forest, was better for him than a West Point education. But above all were the love of country, the sense of duty, the instinct of honor, glowing as bright in the bosom of the country boy as in that of a Bayard or a Sidney. And so, when his country needed him and his God called him, he was ready.

My friends, I do not know what you think about it. But for myself, as a son of Massachusetts, I would rather possess among her historic monuments this simple dwelling of this Rutland farmer, when I think of what it stands for, all it has contained, all the memories that cluster around it, than to have the palace of the Tuileries.

As Edward Everett said of Mount Vernon, “The porter’s lodge or the dog kennel of the palace erected by the gratitude of England to the victor of Blenheim could not have been built for its entire cost.”

Her Majesty’s master of hounds, or the keeper of the queen’s mews, or the purveyor of the royal kitchen, I dare say, would disdain it as a dwelling-place. Certainly there were columns, there were carvings, in the famous French palace built from the plunder of foreign capitals and the spoils of groaning peasants and subject peoples, as a symbol of the glory of France and the military genius of her monarchs, which cost more than the whole of this simple structure. But at least an angry people will never tear it down as the symbol of their own degradation and oppression.

Three days at school after you were nine years old; bootblack and blacksmith’s assistant at Sutton; millwright’s apprentice of Brookfield; town constable of Rutland; friend of Washington; deliverer under Washington of Massachusetts from the foreign

invader ; builder of our stronghold and citadel at West Point ; engineer of the great constitutional fortress of American liberty ; faithful over a few things, ruler over many things,— we come to-day to your dwelling as to a shrine.

It is not to be forgotten. It must not be forgotten, unless Mount Vernon is to be forgotten. There is nothing left but a few stones of the cellar wall of Putnam's birthplace, as there is nothing left but a few bricks of the birthplace of Washington. But this house is still to be seen, as Mount Vernon is still to be seen. It can be preserved at a slight cost for many centuries to come. This reverent, affectionate task is well worthy the piety and patriotism of our generation.

NOTE ON GOVERNOR HUTCHINSON'S FIELD.

The history of the land at the top of Milton Hill, given by Mr. Forbes and Mrs. Cunningham, and the subscribers to a special fund for rounding out the purchase, is identical with the history of the house built on the other side of the road by Governor Hutchinson, and always called the "Hutchinson House."

The late Edmund J. Baker, of Dorchester, wrote a history of that house, which was published some years ago ; and the following extracts from his narrative will serve to give the casual reader some idea of the history of the estate :—

"THE HUTCHINSON HOUSE.

"The first day of April, 1634, when the General Court confirmed to Israel Stoughton the grant to erect a corn-mill and build a weir upon Neponset River, was the birthday of the village now known as Milton Lower Mills. Up to that time no house existed, and no planting had been done. The Indians alone laid claim to Unquity, which signified the region at the head of tide-water of the Neponset. This was their winter home, from which they went in the spring to the salt water for their fish, and to the plains

to raise their corn; and in the fall and winter they traced the river to its tributaries in search of game and furs. . . .

"About the beginning of the second century a change took place in the history of Unquity, which had assumed the name of Neponset; and the social element began to predominate over the industrial element. Jonathan Belcher, the Governor of the Province, bought land, and prepared to build a house on the Rowe estate. The Provincial treasurer, William Foye, built the house lately occupied by Mr. Samuel Littlefield. Colonel Joseph Gooch built the house now for many years in the Churchill family; and Thomas Hutchinson, in 1743, built the house now for many years in the Russell family.

"The settlement of these families in the neighborhood changed the character of the place; and instead of being noticed as the Neponset Mill, and the place where Eliot preached to the Indians at Unquity, it became widely known as a place of taste, literary acquirements, and refined society. Although last in the order of settlement, Governor Hutchinson soon became first in rank, and gave a prominent character to the society of Milton Hill. He was born in Boston, 1711, graduated at Harvard, 1727, was a representative from Boston when twenty-six years old, and continued nine years, and a selectman at twenty-seven. At twenty-nine he was sent to England upon public business relating to the currency.

. . . "Although always holding public office, either by election by the people or by appointment of the crown, he found leisure to cultivate his rural tastes, and spent much time in laboring with his men in setting out and grafting trees, and in attending to the routine of farming and cultivating fruits. The row of sycamore trees which graced both sides of the street as you pass over Milton Hill was the work of his hands. Laboring with the hoe and shovel, he assisted the men to set them there; and all who remember them before the blight of 1840 will bear testimony to his taste. A few still remain; but the most have died out within the last thirty years, and elms and other ornamental trees, under Miss Russell's care, have taken their place.

. . . "Soon after Governor Hutchinson left the country the

estate on Milton Hill passed into the hands of Mr. Samuel Broome, an Englishman by birth, and a merchant of Boston. Mr. Broome lived in the house but a short time, and it does not appear that he made any alterations in the house or added to the social position of Milton Hill.

"The next inhabitant of the Hutchinson house was the Hon. James Warren, a native of Plymouth, and a descendant of the first comers. . . . He married a sister of James Otis, Jr., who was so deeply interested in the Revolutionary struggle. She was a woman of uncommon intellectual powers. She published a history of the American war in three volumes. Mercy Warren is a name that awakens admiration even in our day. While they occupied the house, it was the resort of patriots and men of learning from all parts of the country. When Mr. Warren returned to Plymouth, he sold his farm in Milton to different parties. The mansion and all the land south-east of the Canton road were sold to Patrick Jeffrey; and the forty-two acres with no building upon them, between the Canton road and Neponset River, were sold to Jacob Gill and Edward H. Robbins.

"Madame Haley, the widow of an opulent and highly respectable merchant in London, came to look after the business of her husband, which had suffered much during the war, and brought with her Patrick Jeffrey, as a steward or agent. The property she brought with her, and what she collected here, made her very wealthy. She spent her money freely for what gratified her taste or satisfied her ambition.

. . . "This Madame Haley married her steward; but a good steward made an uncongenial husband, and she went back to London, and Jeffrey purchased the Hutchinson mansion. He was Scotch by birth, and inherited many of the peculiarities of his race. He had the furniture, library, paintings, plate, relics, and ornaments that had graced the mansion of his wife's first husband while an alderman and a mayor of London.

"With his two housekeepers and a retinue of servants he kept up a magnificent style of living. Dr. Jarvis, the leading politician, Robert Hollowell, and the late Governor Eustis were members of the club that dined with him weekly.

... "A few years before Mr. Jeffrey's death he mortgaged his homestead of forty-four acres and several pieces of out-land and marsh for \$7,333; and shortly after his death, in 1812, his administrator sold the equity for \$540 to Barney Smith.

"George A. Otis, a connection of Mr. Smith's, occupied the house for a short time until Mr. Smith and his family returned from Europe and took possession of the estate. Mr. Smith had been an importer of English goods. His store, connected with his house, stood at the corner of State and Devonshire Streets, Boston; but they had been taken down to widen Devonshire Street.

"Mr. Smith had not been long in occupation of the place before he began to improve it. He erected the large piazza now standing, and removed the two small, inconvenient wings which were built with the house, and erected the two commodious ones now standing, and built a long circular shed near the north-west corner of the house. These improvements converted a house of ordinary appearance into an imposing structure, for those days. The extensive business acquaintance of Mr. Smith, and the hospitality which always abounded in his mansion, drew a large circle of acquaintances around him, which made it a point of interest, to which many travellers of distinction resorted, where they were magnificently entertained.

... "To make a settlement of the estate of Mr. Smith, it was necessary that his real estate should be sold under the hammer; and in 1829 it was knocked down to Mrs. Lydia Smith Russell, the accomplished daughter of Barney Smith, and wife of the late Hon. Jonathan Russell, for \$12,300. They were the next occupants of the estate. Mr. Russell had lived a brilliant life, commencing as a lawyer in Providence, then a foreign consul, a minister to several European courts, and commissioner with John Q. Adams, Henry Clay, Albert Gallatin, and Mr. Bayard, of New York, to negotiate the treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain, which was ratified in 1815. His health was much impaired before he took up his residence on Milton Hill; and it continued gradually to fail until his death, in 1833. His remains were buried on the estate, directly opposite the house,

but were afterwards removed to Forest Hills. Mrs. Russell, an accomplished lady, of rare attainments, did not suffer the character of the house for hospitality and sociability to degenerate, while with her daughter she occupied the estate till her death, in 1859. She improved the place by setting out the elms on both sides of the street where the sycamores set out by Governor Hutchinson, some hundred years before, had died; and the house, by making a new and convenient entrance on the south side, which added much to its general appearance and its comfort. Since her death the estate has been in the occupation of her children, and they are too well and favorably known to the present generation to be included in this sketch."

NOTE.—The article of Mr. Baker may be found entire in the "History of Milton, Mass., 1640 to 1887," by the Rev. Albert K. Teele. Mr. Baker wrote under the assumed name of "Shade of Kitchamakin." Kitchamakin was the Indian sachem of Massachusetts, and flourished about the middle of the seventeenth century.

